

**MINUTES  
VERNON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022  
REMOTE LOCATION VIA ZOOM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ybarra called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Mayor Ybarra led the Flag Salute.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**

Melissa Ybarra, Mayor (via remote access)  
William Davis, Mayor Pro Tem (via remote access)  
Leticia Lopez, Council Member (via remote access)  
Crystal Larios, Council Member (via remote access)  
Judith Merlo, Council Member (via remote access – arrived at 9:03 a.m.)

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Carlos Fandino, City Administrator (via remote access)  
Zaynah Moussa, Interim City Attorney (via remote access)  
Lisa Pope, City Clerk (via remote access)  
Scott Williams, Finance Director (via remote access)  
Abraham Alemu, Public Utilities General Manager (via remote access)  
Michael Earl, Human Resources Director (via remote access)  
Fredrick Agyin, Health and Environmental Control Director (via remote access)  
Robert Sousa, Police Chief (via remote access)  
Dan Wall, Public Works Director (via remote access)

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION**

Council Member Larios moved and Council Member Lopez seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called and the motion carried 4-0, Council Member Merlo absent.

Council Member Merlo arrived via remote access at 9:03 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Pat Sprengel, Los Angeles County Fire Department Acting Assistant Fire Chief of Division VI, introduced himself.

**PRESENTATIONS****1. Employee Service Pin Awards for January 2022**

Recommendation: No action required by the City Council. This is a presentation only.

Human Resources Director Earl acknowledged Sylvie De La Riva Gonzalez, Power Resources Settlement Analyst and Norma Rodriguez, Police Dispatcher as the recipients of the Employee Service Pin Awards for January 2022.

**2. Presentation on Pension Obligation Bonds - Workshop II**

Recommendation: No action required by City Council. This is a presentation only.

Finance Director Williams and Ira Summer, GovInvest, presented the staff report.

**3. City Administrator Report**

Recommendation: Receive presentation on:

- New Business Welcome
- Vernon Business in the News
- Joint Tax Sharing Agreement
- Malburg Generating Station (MGS) Transition
- Community Outreach

City Administrator Fandino presented the report.

**CONSENT CALENDAR****MOTION**

Mayor Pro Tem Davis moved and Council Member Lopez seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Recommendation: Approve the February 1, 2022 Regular City Council meeting minutes.

**5. Conduct of Meetings via Teleconference Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361**

Recommendation: Ratify the findings in Resolution No. 2021-36 authorizing continued conduct of City Council and all other City legislative body meetings via teleconference, in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361), due to continued public health and safety concerns caused by COVID-19.

**6. Regulations of Sidewalk Vending**

Recommendation: Waive full reading, conduct second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 1276 adding Chapter 12.10 - Sidewalk Vending to Title 12 - Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places of the Municipal Code.

- 7. Claims Against the City**  
Recommendation: Receive and file the claim submitted by the Law Offices of Mabel N. Orue on behalf of Maria Isabel Rodriguez Navarro in an undetermined amount.
- 8. City Payroll Warrant Register**  
Recommendation: Approve City Payroll Warrant Register No. 788, for the period of January 1 through January 31, 2022, totaling \$2,509,060.57 and consisting of ratification of direct deposits, checks and taxes totaling \$1,621,614.09 and ratification of checks and electronic fund transfers (EFT) for payroll related disbursements totaling \$887,446.48 paid through operating bank account.
- 9. Operating Account Warrant Register**  
Recommendation: Approve Operating Account Warrant Register No. 81, for the period of January 16 through January 29, 2022, totaling \$10,430,957.65 and consisting of ratification of electronic payments totaling \$10,136,246.26, ratification of the issuance of early checks totaling \$294,711.39 and voided Check No. 608639 totaling \$3,549.22.
- 10. Fire Department Activity Report**  
Recommendation: Receive and file the December 2021 Fire Department Activity Report.
- 11. Police Department Activity Report**  
Recommendation: Receive and file the December 2021 Police Department Activity Report.
- 12. Acceptance of Work and Notice of Completion for Contract No. LP-0586 – 50th Street Water Main Replacement**  
Recommendation: A. Accept the Work by Cedro Construction, Inc. with regard to the 50th Street Water Main Replacement, Contract No. LP-0586; and B. Authorize the General Manager of Public Utilities to submit the Notice of Completion for the 50th Street Water Main Replacement for recordation to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (County Clerk).
- 13. Purchase Order with D&R Office Works, Inc.**  
Recommendation: Approve the issuance of a Purchase Order with D&R Office Works, Inc. for the purchase, delivery and installation of office furniture for the Vernon Police Department Detective Bureau and Sergeant's Office, in an amount not to exceed \$57,260.49.
- 14. Award of City Contract No. CS-1204 Pacific Boulevard, Santa Fe and Vernon Avenue Street Improvements**  
Recommendation: A. Find that the proposed action is categorically exempt under the California Environmentally Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities), part (c) (existing highways, streets and sidewalks), because the project consists of repairs to existing streets and involves no expansion of existing use; B. Accept the bid proposal from All American Asphalt as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the Pacific Blvd., Santa Fe & Vernon Ave. Street Improvements project and reject all other bids; C. Approve and authorize the City Administrator to execute Contract No. CS-1204 in the amount of \$878,606 for the Pacific Blvd., Santa Fe & Vernon Ave. Street Improvements project, for a period not to exceed 45 calendar days; and D. Authorize a contingency of \$85,000 in the event of an unexpected changed

condition in the project and grant authority to the City Administrator to issue a change order(s) for an amount up to the contingency amount if necessary.

**15. Amendment No. 1 to the License and Software Services Agreement with Power Settlements Consulting and Software, LLC**

Recommendation: Approve and authorize the City Administrator to execute Amendment No. 1 to the License and Software Services Agreement with Power Settlements Consulting and Software, LLC (Power Settlements), in substantially the same form as submitted, to amend the agreement to remove the automatic renewal language, and extend the agreement by an additional three-year period, effective February 1, 2022, for an additional \$262,542, for a grand total not-to-exceed amount of \$589,360.

**16. Amendment No. 2 to Services Agreement with S&S Labor Force Inc., dba JRM for Unarmed Security Guard Services**

Recommendation: Approve and authorize the City Administrator to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Services Agreement with S&S Labor Force Inc., dba JRM, in substantially the same form as submitted, for continued unarmed security guard services for a not-to-exceed amount of \$992,000.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**17. Appointment of Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc. for Underwriting Services**

Recommendation: A. Approve issuance of Pension Obligation Bonds (POBs); and B. Appoint Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc. (Stifel) to serve as underwriters on the proposed POBs for a cost not-to-exceed \$296,000 to be paid from bond proceeds upon transaction completion and authorize the City Administrator to execute the related Engagement Letter with Stifel.

Finance Director Williams presented the staff report.

Thomas Jacob, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc., introduced members of the firm, John Kim and Jordan Keny-Guyer, and provided an overview of Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc.

## **MOTION**

Council Member Lopez moved and Council Member Larios seconded a motion to: A. Approve issuance of Pension Obligation Bonds (POBs); and B. Appoint Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc. (Stifel) to serve as underwriters on the proposed POBs for a cost not-to-exceed \$296,000 to be paid from bond proceeds upon transaction completion and authorize the City Administrator to execute the related Engagement Letter with Stifel. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

**18. Daggett Solar Power 2 Project Power Sales Agreement**

Recommendation: A. Find that approval of the proposed action is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review, because it is an administrative and fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a "project" as

defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378; with regard to the underlying project and pursuant to the Power Purchase Agreement between SCPPA and Daggett Solar Power 2 LLC, the lead agencies have obtained all CEQA determinations required for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility, or such determinations are reasonably expected to be timely obtained; and B. Approve and authorize the City Administrator to execute a Power Sales Agreement (PSA) with Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA), in substantially the same form as submitted, for the purpose of purchasing 60 megawatts of solar power and 30 megawatts of battery storage with associated green attributes through the Daggett Solar Power 2 Project for a projected annual amount of \$7,100,000 over a 20-year term.

Public Utilities General Manager Alemu presented the staff report.

In response to Council questions, Public Utilities General Manager Alemu discussed the status of renewable resources.

## **MOTION**

Council Member Lopez moved and Council Member Larios seconded a motion to: A. Find that approval of the proposed action is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review, because it is an administrative and fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a “project” as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378; with regard to the underlying project and pursuant to the Power Purchase Agreement between SCPPA and Daggett Solar Power 2 LLC, the lead agencies have obtained all CEQA determinations required for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility, or such determinations are reasonably expected to be timely obtained; and B. Approve and authorize the City Administrator to execute a Power Sales Agreement (PSA) with Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA), in substantially the same form as submitted, for the purpose of purchasing 60 megawatts of solar power and 30 megawatts of battery storage with associated green attributes through the Daggett Solar Power 2 Project for a projected annual amount of \$7,100,000 over a 20-year term. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

## **ORAL REPORTS**

### **City Administrator Reports on Activities and other Announcements.**

City Administrator Fandino discussed his attendance at the League of California Cities Annual City Managers Conference on February 2 and 3 and announced upcoming events including the New Business Welcome on March 9, and Spring Egg-Stravaganza Community Event on March 24. He summarized the recent Malburg Generating Station Town Hall Meeting.

**City Council Reports on Activities (including AB1234), Announcements, or Directives to Staff.**

None.

**RECESS**

Mayor Ybarra recessed the meeting to Closed Session at 9:42 a.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**19. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Designated Representative: Carlos Fandino, City Administrator Employee Organizations:

Teamsters Local 911,

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 47, Vernon Police Management Association,

Vernon Police Officers Benefit Association, and

Employees designated as Management, Confidential and Executive

**20. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Significant exposure to litigation

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) Number of potential cases: 1

**RECONVENE**

At 10:58 a.m., Mayor Ybarra adjourned Closed Session and reconvened the regular meeting.

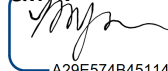
**CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

Interim City Attorney Moussa reported that the Council met in Closed Session, discussed the items on the agenda, and took no reportable action.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Ybarra adjourned the meeting at 10:59 a.m.

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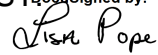


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MELISSA YBARRA, Mayor

**ATTEST**

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LISA POPE, City Clerk  
(seal)